

# STARVING CRAMER FIRE SALVAGE TIMBER SALE

December 18, 2007 Land Board

## **Location of Sale:**

- Missoula Unit (SWLO) – Approximately 1 mile (Section 36) and 6 miles (Section 34) east of Clinton, MT.
- Missoula County – Section 36, T12N, R17W and Section 34 T12N, R16W.
- 100% Common School Trust.
- This fire salvage sale is within the Mile Marker 124 Fire perimeter.

## **Sale Volume & Estimated Value:**

- The estimated volume is 6,523 tons (1,102 MBF) with an estimated minimum value of \$78,276.00 or \$12.00/ton.
- Products include 5,272 tons of burned Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine and lodgepole pine sawlogs and 1,251 tons of green ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir sawlogs.
- In addition to the stumpage value, a fee of \$3.84/ton for Forest Improvement will be charged for all merchantable sawlog timber harvested.
- 5.92 tons/MBF is the conversion factor.

## **Sale & Harvest Treatments:**

- The sale consists of 9 harvest units totaling 188 acres.
- Harvest prescription is to salvage all merchantable Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine and Ponderosa pine burned, damaged, or killed by the Mile Marker 124 fire. In addition, some areas within Section 34 that had seen light to moderate burning would have green trees, primarily spruce budworm infested Douglas-fir, harvested to address forest health issues and to create more favorable stocking levels in treated areas.
- Two snags per acre 21" DBH and one snag recruit per acre 15"-21" DBH were marked to retain to meet snag requirements.
- This sale contains no old growth.
- Unburned areas of surviving green trees would not be harvested.

## **Harvest System:**

- 16% tractor
- 84% cable

## **Road Construction:**

- There are 0.36 miles of new road construction and approximately 7.5 miles of road reconstruction. Existing roads that provide access across adjacent ownerships generally meet BMP's, though some minor improvements may be made independent of this project.

## **Public Involvement & Issues:**

- DNRC mailed scoping letters on September 10, 2007 to the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks and known interested parties. Public involvement was also solicited through notices published in the *Missoulian*, and through personal communication with adjacent landowners in the

project area and DNRC resource specialists. Issues identified through the scoping process were soil and water quality, wildlife, aesthetics, and safety.

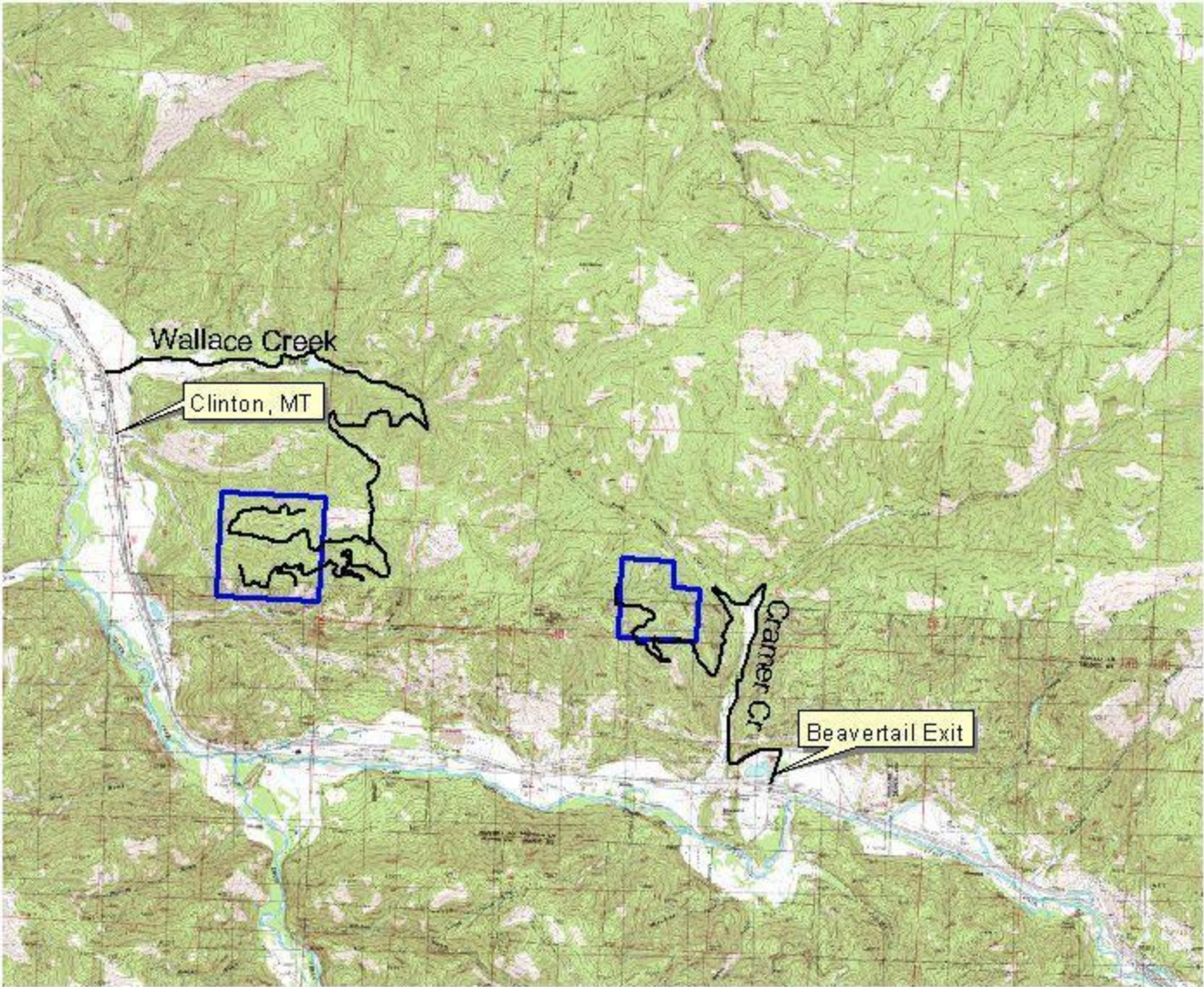
- One public comment was received for this project. A letter from Stoltze Land & Lumber Co. supported the proposed harvest activities.



**Issues and Mitigations:**

- **Soil and Water Quality** – The proposed project is designed to limit impacts to soils and water quality. Appropriate equipment operation limitations, winter logging, effective road design and BMP implementation, grass seeding, weed control and slash retention would be required to limit impacts.
- **Wildlife** – The project includes deferred harvest of approximately 58 acres of black backed woodpecker habitat within the analysis area. Operating seasons have been limited to address black backed woodpecker nesting requirements.
- **Aesthetics and Safety** – Close proximity to residential areas near Clinton (Section 36) presents the potential for increased noise and traffic hazards due to log hauling associated with the project. Adjacent residents who could potentially be most affected have expressed support for the project, and many are currently logging their own property. Restrictions on compression brake use, log truck speed limits and the posting of traffic warning signs would be used to mitigate potential impacts.

**The Director recommends the Land Board direct the Department to sell the Starving Cramer Fire Salvage Timber Sale.**

**Starving Cramer Salvage Timber Sale**  
**Section 34 T12N R16W**  
**Section 36 T12N R17W**



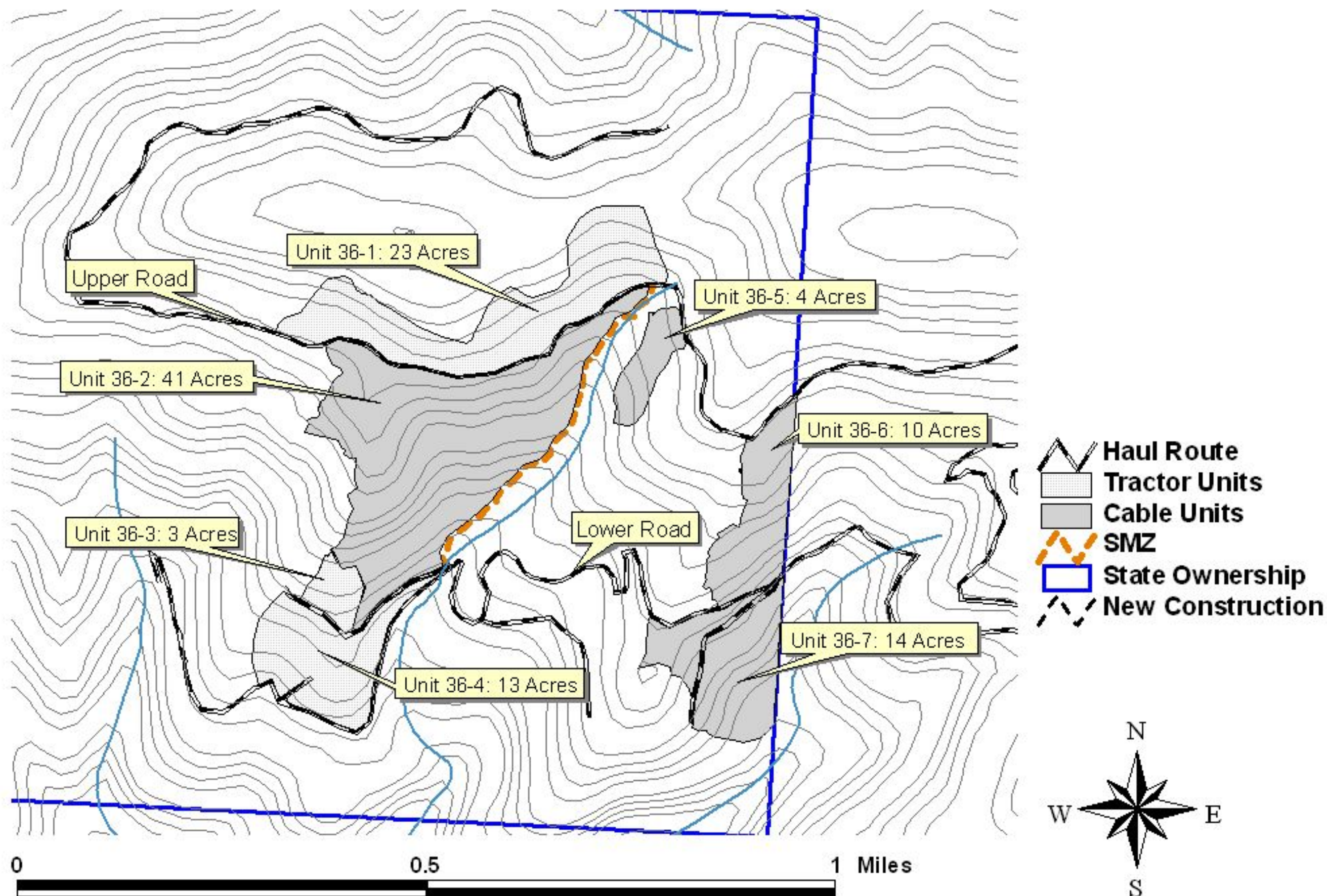
 **Haul Route**  
 **State Ownership**





# Starving Cramer Salvage Timber Sale

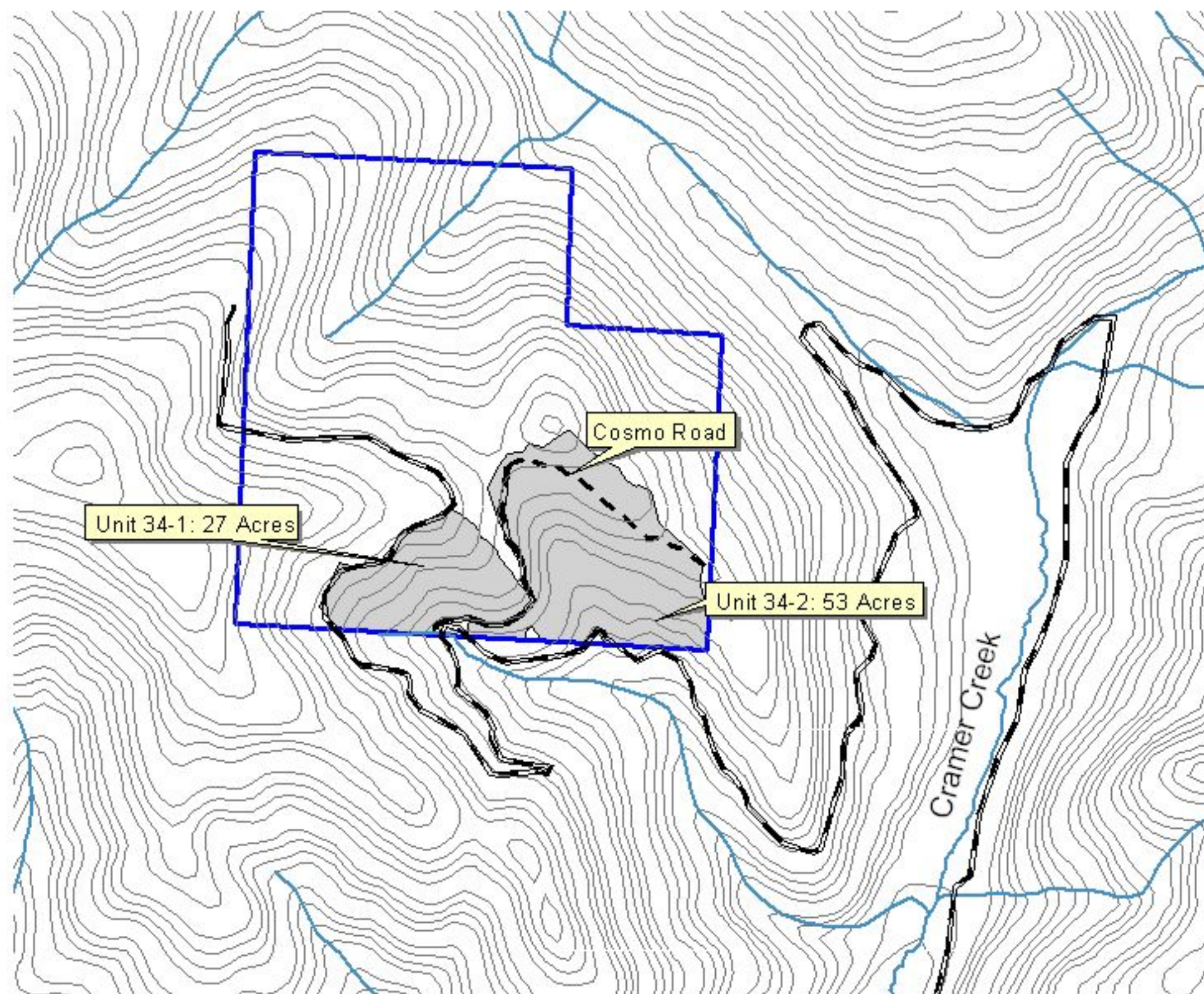
## Section 36 T12N R17W



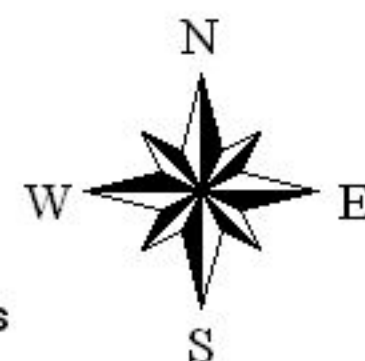


# Starving Cramer Salvage Timber Sale

## Section 34 T12N R16W



-  Haul Route
-  Cable Units
-  State Ownership
-  New Construction



0 1 2 Miles